

Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs



Vet News: Week of March 28, 2014

What's New This Week:

1. Special Events
2. County News
3. News & Announcements
4. Upcoming Events/Meetings

ADVA ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVA Jobs Open at Fayetteville Veterans Home

LPN — post date: 3/26/2014 end date: 4/2/2014

Certified Nursing Assistant — post date: 3/28/2014 end dated: 4/4/2014

Institutional Service Assistant — post date: 3/28/2014 end dated 4/4/2014

[Click here](#) for the job postings online.

Fayetteville Veterans Home Celebrates Resident's Happy 100



In photo from left to right: ADVA Director Cissy Rucker, Fayetteville administrator Kriss Schaffer and Mamie Hill.

On Thursday afternoon, the Arkansas State Veterans Home at Fayetteville celebrated Mamie Harlan Hill, who turned 100 years old. Family, friends and a host of others were on hand to congratulate her. Celebratory letters were delivered to Mamie from the White House and other congressional leadership.

Mamie was born at home on March 27, 1914, in McCurtin OK. She is the second oldest in her family. She married Lee O. Hill Sr. at Fort Reno, OK, in 1933. She traveled with her husband until he retired. She lived in Fort Reno, Maryland, Louisiana, Fort Hood, and Fort Robinson, NE. Mamie was a housewife and organized parties where her husband was stationed throughout his military career.

She has one son, Lee O. Hill Jr., who lives in Midlothian, VA, and a granddaughter who is expecting Mamie's first great grandchild in September.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Outdoor Concert Planned at MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History

On Tuesday, April 1, at 6:30 p.m., the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas History will present a free outdoor concert by Starlifter, a component of the United States Air Force Band of Mid-America.

This seven-piece group of talented musicians performs in virtually every musical idiom, from Rock and Pop to Jazz and Country, to great contemporary and traditional patriotic songs. They feature the best in popular music from the 1970's to the most current sounds at the top of today's charts.

The United States Air Force Band of Mid-America is the musical ambassador of the Air Mobility Command. Formerly known as the Air Force Band of Mid-America, the Military Airlift Command Band, and then as the AMC Band of Mid-America, the United States Air Force Band of Mid-America was established in 1942 at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. In 1960, the Band began working from its present home at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, as the principal representative of the Military Air Transport Service and the Military Airlift Command, both predecessors of the Air Mobility Command. In any given year, the United States Air Force Band of Mid-America and its component units perform more than 400 engagements for more than 1 million people.

Military Spouse Appreciation Bazaar Looking for Entries

In honor of Military Spouse Day, Little Rock Air Force Base will host a Military Spouse Appreciation Bazaar on May 9 from 5-8 p.m. at the LRAFB Outdoor Warfit Track and we need your help!

Organizers are looking for individuals or businesses who would like to showcase their products or services at the bazaar. Everyone is welcome to bring samples, giveaways, business cards and demonstrations to showcase their product or service.

Entry for these participants is FREE. However, point of sale transactions are not permitted at the bazaar, but each business will be provided a free table and chairs.

This event is open to any and all who would like to participate; including retirees who have businesses and Chamber/community members who provide services/products/etc.

If you would like to participate, contact Kori-Ann Ramirez with the Airman and Family Readiness Center (501)987-2667. Registration will close May 1.

COUNTY NEWS

Baxter County VSO Makes Changes

The Baxter County Veteran Service Officer is moving to a new location next week, the phone number will remain the same and is the best form of contact during this transition.

Baxter New Location:

5 East 9th Street
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Other Notes

- Lew Powell the assistant CVSO in Logan County has retired.
 - Lee County has increased office hours to Monday and Wednesday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Veteran/Children's Writer to Hold Signing

Ella Elliott Colvin is from Bentonville, North Carolina. A retired Air Force Nurse Corps Officer, she and her Air Force retired husband live in Arkansas.

Ella is a Vietnam, and Iraqi war veteran. She retired in 2009 at Little Rock AFB. She has a small book selling/publishing company, Grandma's Kidz, which promotes children's voices through word or art.

Her first book, "My Last Name is Grandma," took the readers on a poignant journey about two of her grandchildren. Her second book "At the End of the Rainbow-Lived Five Sisters Without Fairy Power," is

a children's book about a family of fairies — Wen and Zerta and their six children. The children were born without fairy power. Ella will have a book signing April 5, from 11 a.m.-2p.m. at the Bill Harmon Recreation Center, 51 Shelby Road, Sherwood, AR, 72120.

Military Flying Society Seeks New Members

The General Ira Eaker Chapter of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society is looking for new members who are recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

The Ira Eaker Chapter, an Arkansas chapter of the national DFC society in San Diego, was established in 1997 to recognize recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross medal, to install them in the society and to place them on the DFC honor roll. The chapter has 140 members and represents all branches of the military flying forces including rotary wing and fixed-wing types of aircraft. [Full Story](#)

Prescription Take Back and Food Drive April 26

The Arkansas Prescription Drug Take Back & Food Drive for Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance is set Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Take your unused drugs to a drop box in your area. To find a location, go to <http://www.artakeback.org>.

The primary goals of the take back are to have as many pill-collection sites across Arkansas as possible, have an excellent turnout at each site, and to collect and destroy as many expired and unnecessary medications as possible (the goal this time is 20,000 pounds of pills).

The benefits Take Backs provide are that collected medications do not pollute water, are never accidentally being ingested by kids, are never abused, diverted, or stolen, and never cause overdoses, injuries, or even deaths. They also provide a great means to share information with the public about the larger issue of prescription abuse.

In addition to the Take Back, this year there will be a concurrent food drive on April 26 and we have been partnering with the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance in its planning. All the food collected in communities is going to stay in those very same communities, and local feeding Organizations/food pantries are taking care of each site in terms of receiving, collecting, storing, and distributing the food.

Brought to you by the AR Office of the Drug Director, AR Law Enforcement, DEA, US Attorney's Office, AR National Guard Counterdrug Program, AR Office of the Attorney General, AR State Board of Pharmacy, and many other partners in Arkansas.

**** To add an event, email details to kelly.ferguson@arkansas.gov ****

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

March 29

Michael Vann Johnson Jr. American Legion Post 74 hosts annual Tribute to Fallen Heroes ceremony; 11 a.m.; Sherwood Forest; nationally renowned speaker and author Walter Carter Tucker is honored guest; Call 501-374-9002 or contact R.D. Kinsey, Post Commander @ 501-247-4765 or rdk52@hotmail.com.

April 1

Starlifter Outdoor concert; 6:30 p.m.; behind the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History,

April 5

Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day; 9-6 p.m.; Jacksonville Museum of Military History.

April 12

Military Appreciation Day; 3 p.m.; Southern Arkansas University baseball complex; Reception at Mulerider Activities Center 1-2:30 p.m.

April 14

Veterans Service Officer quarterly meeting, 10-11 a.m., Veterans Healthcare System of the Ozarks, Director's Conference Room, Bldg. 4, Fayetteville

April 15

Arkansas Veterans Commission Regular Meeting; 10 a.m.; Fayetteville Veterans Home

April 18

VA2Vets benefits event; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; St. Bernard's in Jonesboro

April 21

The Freedom Golf Scramble at Diamante CC in Hot Springs Village. Sponsors and teams register at www.ArkansasFreedomFund.org.

May 3

LRAFB Retiree Appreciation Day; Hangar 1080

May 7

Women Veterans Health Fair; 1- 3 p.m.; Veterans Healthcare System of the Ozarks Auditorium, Bldg. 3, Fayetteville

May 9

Military Spouse Appreciation Bazaar; 5-8 p.m.; LRAFB Outdoor Warfit Track

May 16-18

Hitting for Heroes Softball Tournament at Bishop Park in Bryant. Info at www.ArkansasFreedomFund.org

May 26

State of Arkansas Memorial Day Ceremony; 10 a.m.; Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery at North Little Rock

May 30

Golf Scramble for AFF Hunting Program. Hot Springs CC. Hot Springs. Sponsors and teams register at www.ArkansasFreedomFund.org.

RESOURCES FYI

Military OneSource

Confidential services, including non-medical counseling and specialty consultations, are available through Military OneSource. Eligible individuals may receive confidential services at no cost.

Operation Homefront

Operation Homefront assists military families during difficult financial times by providing food assistance, auto and home repair, vision care, travel and transportation, moving assistance, essential home items, and financial assistance.

ARVets

The mission of ARVets is to enhance the overall quality of life for military personnel, veterans and their families by improving access to resources and strengthening support systems through all phases of the military life cycle. ARVets will proactively offer more innovative ideas and methods to deliver services and focus on a grassroots case-management approach.

Arkansas Freedom Fund

The Arkansas Freedom Fund (AFF) a Nonprofit, Veteran's 501c3 that serves, supports and benefits military personnel, veterans, wounded warriors and their families. The primary focus of the organization is rehabilitative recreational outdoor activities. Many military personnel and

Veterans need opportunities to get out and do physical activities, experience nature, connect with others that have similar backgrounds and help each other connect with civilian activities outside of a military or medical construct. Cycling, Golfing, Fishing and Hunting programs are adapted to meet the requirements of the Veteran, regardless of physical and mental ability or disability.

[ASPIRE](#)

The organization seeks to assist lower income surviving military spouses, and caregivers of disabled military veterans achieve the educational and related quality of life goals essential to their sustained social and economic well-being. ASPIRE accomplishes this mission through a carefully structured program of economic support and life skills counseling tailored to the individual needs of each recipient and their families with the goal of getting them off of government assistance permanently and empowering them to continue their lives and support their families independently.

[TaxHelp.org](#)

This tax guide helps military personnel better understand how they should be filing taxes, what tax deductions and extensions they are eligible for, and what benefits their dependents and spouses are allowed. Veterans will also find their state's VA office and contact information to determine if there are unique state tax benefits.

[Hero 2 Hired](#)

Hero2Hired (H2H) was created to make it easy for Reserve Component service members to connect to and find jobs with military-friendly companies. H2H also offers career exploration tools, military-to-civilian skills translations, education and training resources, as well as a mobile app. Support for H2H is provided through the Department of Defense's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program.

[Show Your Stripes](#)

iHeartRadio's Show Your Stripes is a community initiative launched by Clear Channel, the media and entertainment company in America with the largest reach, to generate awareness around the issue of veteran unemployment, encourage businesses to hire skilled veterans and help those transitioning out of the military find jobs. With over \$75 million in radio, digital and out-of-home resources dedicated to this initiative in just one year, iHeartRadio's Show Your Stripes is the single largest public service campaign in Clear Channel's history.

[ESGR](#)

ESGR, a Department of Defense office, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment. ESGR is supported by a network of more than 4,900 volunteers in 54 committees located across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam-CNMI, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

[Vet Tix](#)

Vet Tix is a nationally recognized 501c3 Veterans Support Organization whose mission is to "give something to those who gave." Vet Tix teams up with major sports teams, leagues, promoters, organizations, companies, venues and everyday event ticket holders to provide free (and discounted) tickets to the more than 26 million active military, Veterans and their families.

ADVA Vet News is a weekly email update providing information of interest to Service Officers and Veterans. Information has been provided from a variety of sources and does not necessarily constitute an opinion or position by ADVA.

A service of the [Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs](#), Public Information Department, 2200 Ft. Roots Dr. Bldg. 65, Rm. 119, N. Little Rock, AR 72114

This message was sent to members of the Arkansas Veterans' Commission, the Arkansas Veterans' Coalition, ADVA Service Officers, and County Veterans Services Officers mailing lists. Click [HERE](#) to be removed. Type "Remove Me" in the subject line.

